

THE CITY OF MOMENCE

Momence, IL 60954

ALDERMEN

CHARLES E. STEELE, JR., Mayor

AMBER LUPE, City Clerk

Melissa Collett-Doody

Bonnie Straley

Josh Anderson

Mike Hart

Tanya Fordahl

David Cook

Tom Temple

Mark Lesyna

MOMENCE CITY COUNCIL

Monday, July 06, 2026

Council Meeting

Time: 7:30 P.M.

The City Council Meeting of the City of Momence was held in the Council Chambers at 29 North Dixie Highway, Momence.

ROLL CALL-

Roll was called by the Clerk with Aldermen Doody, Straley, Anderson, Hart, Fordahl, Cook, Temple and Lesyna present.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES-

Alderman Anderson made motion to approve the minutes. Alderman Temple seconded the motion with Aldermen Doody, Straley, Hart, Fordahl, Cook and Lesyna voting yes.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS-

Alderman Straley made motion to approve the bills for payment. Alderman Lesyna seconded the motion with Aldermen Doody, Anderson, Hart, Fordahl, Cook and Temple voting yes.

CITIZENS FORUMS-

Jillian Young

Request for Tag Day for the Momence Cheerleaders. Stationed at Dixie & Shell, Dixie & Washington and Dixie & Second Street. This will be held on July 25, 2026 from 9 A.M. until 12 P.M. Alderman Straley made motion to approve Tag Day on the 25th of July at the Intersections from 9 A.M. to 12 P.M. Alderman Cook seconded the motion with Aldermen Doody, Anderson, Hart, Fordahl, Temple and Lesyna voting yes.

David Cook

In regard to street closures for Annie. The Committee is requesting during actual performances that we close off more streets. (Practice 7/12/2026 Performance 7/16/2026-7/19/2026). Streets closures would be Ally on East Washington, whole street closed at Dixie night of performance, North Locust from East River Street to East 2nd Street, from post office across to Sluggers the street to be closed so that no one is driving up toward the back of the stage. Closure time would be 7 P.M. to 10:30 P.M.. Alderman Straley asked, "Did we do all these street closures before when we had Chicago?" Alderman Cook stated, "Yes, well we had to because you don't want cars driving behind." Mayor Steele asked, "So slugger won't have any place to park?" Alderman

Cook stated, "Well all along Walnut Street." Mayor Steele explained it would be Chocolate Street and that's not fair to the business. Cook stated, "Well I'm guessing they probably asked, I don't know."

According to Alderman Cook, they are also asking if the streetlights can be turned off for those periods. Superintendent Vela discussed it is possible as we did it for the movie and the movie did pay our overtime. Alderman Fordahl stated, "They also brought in their own security and now we are turning off lights with minimal security over there." Superintendent Vela noted that each individual pole gets shut off, not all can be shut off at once.

According to Alderman Cook the Committee is also requesting if the music could also be turned off. Alderman Anderson discussed he is in full support of the Annie Production, but roads are not properly closed, no light signage at night and we are not following DOT requirements. Alderman Cook requested maybe half the block. Alderman Cook noted they are talking 700-1000 people on the best night, and we approved them being here and need to be accommodating, they are a Not-for-profit. Alderman Cook reiterated the city is going to benefit from this with tax revenue. Alderman Anderson agrees and would like to see more, but yellow barricades need to go away regardless, and DOT needs to be discussed with anything that we do. Alderman Cook noted they have done this all over the county 2-3 productions there has never been a problem.

Alderman Anderson noted he just wants to see everyone safe and for us to follow road closures as best as we can and proper barricades keep everyone safe. Mayor Steele discussed that people in apartments still need to be able to get in and out. Mayor Steele said, "It's an expense to call in and block things off and shut lights off." Alderman Anderson said, "Are we allowing the businesses to still operate through there and people to get to their homes during that time to, just no traffic going across the back of the stage?" Alderman Cook said "Right, that's what they are trying to prevent and I'm sure they have talked to sluggers about this." Alderman Straley said, "I hope so." Alderman Cook replied, "Yeah, they have talked to all the businesses." Alderman Straley discussed 7P.M. to 10:30P.M. being a big time for some bars. Alderman Cook reiterated patrons can still go in. Alderman Anderson said, "Sluggers is in support." Cook said, "Yes, sluggers is going to do business because of this." Alderman Anderson asked Alderman Cook "If we blocked those off with what we have regardless if it was yellow barricades, how are we stopping people from getting through?" Gladfest was discussed and how they work for that. Chief Siemsen noted they were driving around them for 4th of July. Alderman Doody discussed if we are doing it the right way than we need to do it for everything. Chief Siemsen said police with squad cars out there will solve it along with barricading correctly.

Alderman Cook made a motion to approve street closures, lighting as well as music being turned off. Alderman Doody seconded the motion with Straley, Hart, Fordahl, Temple and Lesyna voting yes. Alderman Anderson passed on vote.

OLD BUSINESS-

Nothing for old business.

ALDERMANIC-

Alderman Straley- Called a Budget and Finance Committee meeting for July 20, 2026 at 7:15 P.M. Called a Public Hearing to discuss the appropriations ordinance and budget to be held July 20, 2026 at 7:00 P.M. at City Hall.

Alderman Anderson- Superintendent Vela is requesting Executive Session for contractual and Chief Siemsen is requesting executive for appointment.

DEPARTMENT HEADS-

CHIEF OF POLICE (Patrick Siemsen)-

Discussed June monthly Stats. Chief Siemsen did note there were no problems at the fireworks but did issue some tickets on 4th of July. He also discussed union negotiations are still ongoing. Chief Siemsen did make mention of a bad sewer issue in town and has a plumbing inspector involved. This issue did result in several tickets. He did note we received 100% reimbursement for officer Sanchez's academy, which was around \$8000.00. He also discussed that Carmen Arroyo is doing well and graduates police academy Saturday, July 11, 2026. Lastly, he mentioned they are preparing for Gladfest.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (Eric Vela)-

Superintendent Vela discussed they have been dealing with a Sewer issue on River Street (private property). He discussed how they are working diligently to prepare for Gladfest. Superintendent Vela did mention blasting dynamite is over and starting on 07/07/2026 they will be hauling material out of there. He does have a Thursday update meeting with the project crew at 1:30 P.M. if anyone would like to come. Alderman Cook asked, "Did we hear anything from the county when they are doing 2nd street?" Superintendent Vela discussed the date has been pushed back due to the contractor being pushed back on other jobs because of rain. At this time it will tentatively start Monday 07/13/2026.

CITY COLLECTOR (Tina Demack)-

Still in training. They are live with accounts payable and GL. Demack mentioned they are learning a lot and think this new system can do a lot. Next week she will be working on Parallel Payroll.

TREASURER REPORT-

Bobbie Munyon

Munyon discussed with the new system they are tracking more on payroll. She noted we have a lot of people holding on to checks for a while and not cashing them. She requested when you get the check to just cash it. She shared that they have some from 2023 and 2025 still that are out there. She mentioned if anyone does not want to go to the bank right away, we can enroll you in direct deposit. Munyon has been questioned why checks have sat so long while working with new system.

MAYORAL REPORT –

Discussion to vote on peddler applications with Surf internet for Thomas Coats, Shane Kobs, Keegan Glover, Cameron Smith and Vance King all clean backgrounds, no remarks. Mayor Steele stated, "So we need an approval to issue them a peddlers license." Cook stated, "So moved." Alderman Fordahl seconded the motion with Aldermen Doody, Straley, Anderson, Hart, Temple and Lesyna voting yes.

Mayor Steele did state, "For executive session we have a review of the minutes to complete."

Mayor Steele stated, "Let's make a motion to go into executive." Alderman Straley stated, "So moved." Alderman Doody seconded the motion with Aldermen Anderson, Hart, Fordahl, Cook, Temple and Lesyna voting yes.

Council went into Executive at 8:02 P.M.

Council came out of executive to open at 8:41 P.M.

ROLL CALL-

Roll was called by the Clerk with Aldermen Doody, Straley, Anderson, Hart, Fordahl, Cook, Temple and Lesyna present.

Alderman Doody made a motion to hire Carmen Arroyo as a Full-Time Police Officer. Alderman Fordahl

seconded the motion with Aldermen Straley, Anderson, Hart, Cook, Temple and Lesyna voting yes.

Mayor Steele stated, "Next we have the contract for Baxter and Woodmen for the engineering services to repair and rebuild our water tower." Cook stated, "Motion to approve." Alderman Temple seconded the motion with Aldermen Straley, Anderson, Hart, Fordahl and Lesyna voting yes. Alderman Doody passed.

Mayor Steele stated, "Motion to adjourn meeting." Alderman Cook made a motion to adjourn. Alderman Doody seconded the motion and stated, "All in."

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Lupe, City Clerk

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Amber Lupe", is positioned below the typed name. The signature is fluid and cursive.